

SUMMARY OR PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following summary includes all verbal comments made at the Public Information meeting, and all written comments received prior to the deadline of August 15, 2003. The PDCTC response is outlined immediately following each comment.

James Marquette (City of Poughkeepsie Administrator) wrote a letter about **PIN 839317, Route 376: Boardman-Main Street**. Although the project is identified as a Reconstruction project, the City believes that the project has been changed to a traffic calming project. They believe this project should only be considered when older traffic calming projects around the City/town are considered and scheduled on an equal time frame from completion. The City also believes that the change in project type has changed it from a local project to a project with regional impact.

Response – NYSDOT believes that this project, which is not federally funded, is similar to a project they are discussing with the City and Local residents on the westbound arterial in that it is a project to address traffic, safety, and aesthetic issues that was requested by the surrounding community. NYSDOT has stated that they have done extensive analysis in an attempt to prove to the City that despite the City's concerns that traffic diversions from Raymond Avenue to Grand Avenue, if any, would not be significant. The City has not accepted this. NYSDOT has offered to provide improvements on Grand Avenue to allay the city's concerns.

NYSDOT feels that neither the Raymond Avenue project nor the proposals for the East-West Arterial are "regional" projects and that in their present scopes they concern local issues and should not cause any significant "regional" traffic flow changes. NYSDOT has worked with the City on the City's concerns both on the East-West Arterial and with the Raymond avenue project and will continue to do so.

Public Information Meeting Attendance

Name	Affiliation
Wieslaw Amber	PDCTC-Region 8
Mark Debald	PDCTC-Dutchess
Jack Hohman	NYS Thruway Authority
Michael Murphy	DCDPW
Richard Peters	NYSDOT-Region 8
Olive Rose	NYS Bridge Authority
Kealy Salomon	PDCTC-Dutchess
Ernest J. Schneider	MTA Metro-North Railroad
Jean Shanahan	PDCTC-Region 8
John Webster	DC LOOP
Eoin Wrafter	PDCTC-Dutchess

Written Comments

James Marquette	City of Poughkeepsie
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ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

Access Control - The exercise of state and/or local government authority to condition a property owner's right of access to a road.

Access Management - The process that provides access to land development while simultaneously preserving the flow of traffic on the surrounding road system in terms of safety, capacity and speed.

Accessibility - A measure of the ability or ease of all people to travel among various origins and destinations.

ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act. Federal law that governs the provision of services and facilities necessary to accommodate people with disabilities. The law includes specific requirements regarding transportation services and facilities.

AMTRAK - American Railroad Tracks. Passenger trains run by the National Railroad Passenger Corporation of Washington, DC.

Arterial - A major thoroughfare used primarily for through traffic and generally characterized by high vehicular capacity and continuity of movement.

Arterial, Unlimited Access - An arterial providing properties abutting the right-of-way with the right to construct driveways to the arterial.

Arterial Management - The application of (state and local) planning, capital, regulatory, and management tools to enhance and/or preserve the transportation function of the roadway.

Bicycle - Every two or three wheeled device upon which a person or persons may ride, propelled by human power through a belt, chain, or gears, with such wheels in tandem or tricycle, except that it shall not include such a device having solid tires and intended for use only on a sidewalk or by pre-teenage children. (New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law)

Bicycle Facility - A general term denoting improvements and provisions made by public agencies to accommodate or encourage bicycling, including parking facilities, bikeway maps, and shared roadways not specifically designated for bicycle use.

Bicycle Lane (Bike Lane) - A portion of roadway that has been designated by stripping, signing and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists. (New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law)

Bicycle Path (Bike Path) - A path completely separated from vehicular traffic and within an independent right of way or the right of way of another facility. Travelways separated from vehicles, but shared by both bicycles and pedestrians are included in this definition.

Bicycle Route (Bike Route) - A segment of a system of bikeways designated by the jurisdiction having authority with appropriate directional and informational markers, with or without specific bicycle route number. Includes both facilities for exclusive use of bicycles and shared use with motor vehicles.

Bicycle-Sensitive Traffic Signals - Traffic detector loops that are sensitive enough to pick up a bicycle and trigger a change in the light.

Bikeway - Any road, path, or way which in some manner is specifically designated as being open to bicycle travel, regardless of whether such facilities are designated for the exclusive use of bicycles or are to be shared with other transportation modes.

Bulb-out (Pinch Point) - A bulge in the curb intended to narrow the travel lane and thereby reduce the speed of vehicles. A variety of designs are possible.

Bus lane - A street or highway lane intended primarily for buses, either all day or at specific times.

Bus shelter - Structure at a bus stop providing seats and protection from inclement weather.

CAAA Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 - Federal law which stresses the relationship of transportation and air quality and the attainment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Capacity - The maximum volume of traffic that a particular roadway or section of roadway is able to accommodate in a given time period.

Capacity Deficiency - Situation that occurs when the number of vehicles on a roadway exceeds the desired level of service threshold volumes for that roadway.

Capital Costs - Non-recurring or infrequently recurring costs of long-term assets, such as land, guideways, stations, buildings, and vehicles.

Carbon monoxide (CO) - Colorless, odorless, very poisonous gas formed by the incomplete combustion of carbon materials, including gasoline. It is a major air pollutant based on weight.

Carpool - An arrangement in which two or more people share the use, cost, or both of traveling in privately owned automobiles between fixed points on a regular basis.

CHIPS - Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program. State funding program that provides counties and municipalities with state aid for operating, maintaining, and rehabilitating local highways and bridges.

Conformity - In non-attainment areas, the process of assessing the compliance of transportation plans and projects with air quality standards defined by the Clean Air Act.

Congestion - The volume of traffic at which roadway performance is no longer operating at an acceptable level of service.

Connections 2025 – The long-range plan for the Poughkeepsie Metropolitan Area. *See also LRP*

CMAQ - Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality program. Federal funding program for projects and programs designed to decrease traffic congestion and/or improve air quality.

Crosswalk - Any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface. (New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law)

Curb cut - Area at which a street curb has been cut and sloped so the sidewalk leads smoothly to street and crosswalk.

Delay - A measure of driver discomfort, frustration, fuel consumption, and lost travel time.

DCDPW - Dutchess County Department of Public Works. Dutchess County department charged with responsibility for county highway, bridge, and building facilities.

Demand-response - Transit service in which passengers request door-to-door or point-to-point service at a specific time. Also called Dial-A-Ride.

EPA Environmental Protection Agency - Federal agency responsible for implementing the Clean Air Act.

Farebox - Machine that accepts tokens, bills, coins or tickets from passengers for rides on transit vehicles.

Federal-Aid System - consists of roads which are eligible for either NHS (National Highway System) or STP (Surface Transportation Program) funding. All roads included in the Federal-Aid system are functionally classified in systems higher than local or rural minor collector.

FHWA Federal Highway Administration - USDOT agency responsible for approval of transportation projects that affect the federal aid highway system. FHWA is a non-voting member of the PDCTC.

FRA Federal Railroad Administration - USDOT agency responsible for the administering of federal programs concerning rail transportation. FTA is a non-voting member of the PDCTC.

FTA Federal Transit Administration - USDOT agency responsible for approval of mass transit projects. FTA is a non-voting member of the PDCTC.

Fixed route - Transit services that run on regular, pre-scheduled routes, usually with bus schedules and designated bus stops.

Functional Classification - process by which streets and highways are grouped into classes or systems, according to the character of service they are intended to provide. Basic to this process is the recognition that roads do not function independently, rather most travel involves movement through a network of roads.

High-speed rail - System in densely traveled corridors at speeds of at least 124 mph.

Highway - A general term denoting a public way for purposes of vehicular travel, including the entire area within the right-of-way.

HBRR Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation - Federal funding program for rehabilitation and replacement of deficient highway bridges.

Highway Trust Fund - Aid fund administered by FHWA. Most funds for highway improvement are apportioned to states with formulas that give weight to population, area and mileage.

HOV High Occupancy Vehicle - A vehicle carrying two or more passengers, including carpools, vanpools, and buses.

HOV Lane - Highway travel lane designated for use by HOVs.

IM Interstate Maintenance - Federal funding program for projects and programs on the Interstate Highway System.

ITS Intelligent Transportation Systems - Uses computer and communications technology to provide information to travelers about road and transit conditions and to monitor, guide, and control the operation of vehicles. The application of ITS technologies offers improved safety, more efficient use of infrastructure, and enhanced user choices.

Intermodal - A transportation system connecting or including different modes of transportation.

ISTEA - Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (pronounced ice-tea). Federal law that governs how federal transportation funds are spent. The requirements of ISTEA are administered jointly by FHWA and FTA. *See also TEA-21*

Local Authorities - Every county, municipal or other local board, body or officer, county park commissioner, parkway authority, bridge authority, bridge and tunnel authority, the office of parks and recreation, the New York State Thruway authority or similar body or person having authority to enact laws or regulations relating to traffic under the constitution and laws of this state. (New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law)

LRP long-range plan - The long-range plan for PDCTC is *Connections 2025* (2003).

Match - State or local funds required by the federal government to complement federal money for a project.

Median - The portion of a divided highway separating the traveled way from traffic traveling in opposite directions.

Metropolitan Planning Area - The region in which the MPO carries out its transportation planning responsibilities and is designated as such by the MPO and the Governor in accordance with federal regulations. The PDCTC metropolitan boundary includes all of Dutchess County.

MNR Metro-North Railroad (Metro-North) - An operating affiliate of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) that provides rail service to Dutchess County (among others). MTA is a voting member of the PDCTC.

Mode - A particular form of travel, for example, walking or traveling by automobile, bus, or train.

MPO Metropolitan Planning Organization - Federally mandated organization for coordinating transportation planning in a designated metropolitan area. All urbanized areas over 50,000 population are required to have an MPO. The MPO is responsible for the 20 year long-range plan and the transportation improvement program.

Multi-Use Path - A facility physically separated from the roadway and intended for shared use by bicycle, pedestrian and other non-motorized users.

NAAQS National Ambient Air Quality Standards - Federal standards that set allowable concentrations and exposure limits for various pollutants.

NEPA National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

NHS National Highway System - A nation-wide system of highways and roads designated by the US Congress that serve to link the states, major urban areas, and other important destinations. Also a federal funding program for projects and programs on designated NHS facilities.

NOCTC Newburgh-Orange County Transportation Council - The MPO for Orange County.

Nonattainment Area. Geographic area designated by the EPA where the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) have been exceeded. The Poughkeepsie Ozone Nonattainment area includes Dutchess, Putnam and northern Orange Counties.

NO_x - oxides of nitrogen. A chief component of air pollution caused by the burning of fossil fuel.

NYMTC New York Metropolitan Transportation Council - The MPO for the New York metropolitan area that includes New York City, Long Island, and the Hudson Valley counties of Putnam, Rockland and Westchester.

NYSDEC New York State Department of Environmental Conservation - NYSDEC is the state air quality agency with primary responsibility for developing and amending the New York State Implementation Plan (SIP) for Air Quality.

NYSDOT New York State Department of Transportation - NYSDOT is a voting member and Secretary to the PDCTC.

Park-and-ride lot - Lot to which passengers drive their cars, leave them for the day and board transit vehicles or join carpools and vanpools.

PDCTC Poughkeepsie-Dutchess County Transportation Council - The MPO for the Poughkeepsie metropolitan area which covers Dutchess County. The PDCTC is responsible for adopting the long-range transportation plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, and an annual work program.

Pedestrian - Any person afoot or in a wheelchair. (New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law)

Right-Of-Way (ROW) - Land corridors needed for the construction of highways, transit, railroads, etc.

Roadway - The portion of the highway, including shoulders, for vehicle use.

Shared Lanes - Streets and highways with no special provisions for bicyclists. Shared motor vehicle/bicycle use of a standard width travel lane.

Shared Roadway - Any roadway upon which a bicycle lane is not designated and which may be legally used by bicycles regardless of whether such a facility is specifically designated as a bikeway.

Sidewalk - The portion of a highway designed for preferential or exclusive use by pedestrians. A separated, hard-surfaced paved path raised from the street by means of a curb or other barrier, designed primarily for pedestrian users.

SDF State Dedicated Fund - Funds collected and allocated by New York to fund highway and transit improvements.

Section 5303 - Federal Transit Act section that funds planning and research.

Section 5307 - Federal Transit Act section that authorizes grants to urban areas under legislated formula.

Section 5309 - Federal Transit Act section that authorized discretionary grants for capital projects.

Section 5310 - Federal Transit Act section that authorized transportation capital and operating grants for service for the elderly and handicapped.

Section 5311 - Federal Transit Act section that authorizes capital and operating grants for non-urban areas.

SEQR or SEQRA - The State Environmental Quality Review Act. A process that introduces the consideration of environmental factors into the early planning stages of actions in order to avoid adverse impacts on the environment.

SFY - State Fiscal Year (April 1 to March 31).

SHIPS Suburban Highway Improvement Program - State funding program that provides counties and municipalities on Long Island and in the Hudson Valley with funds for specified road and highway projects.

SIP State Implementation Plan - A plan mandated by the Clean Air Act that contains procedures to monitor, control, maintain, and enforce compliance with the NAAQS.

STIP State Transportation Improvement Program - A statewide compilation of MPO and rural area TIPs that is submitted to the federal transportation agencies for approval, which serves as the basis for the obligation of federal transportation funds.

STP Surface Transportation Program - The major federal funding program for projects and programs on federal-aid highways. STP funds can also be used for transit capital projects.

STPP Surface Transportation Policy Project - Diverse coalition whose goal is to develop a better national transportation policy.

TDM Transportation Demand Management - Activities and programs designed to improve travel by reducing demand. Examples include ridesharing, transit, bicycling, and telecommuting.

TEA 21 – Transportation Efficiency act for the 21st Century. Federal law that governs how federal transportation funds are spent.

TIP Transportation Improvement Program - A three-year program of highway, transit, and other transportation capital projects. All federally funded projects must appear on an approved TIP to be implemented.

TSM Transportation Systems Management - Activities and programs designed to improve travel by improving overall operations. Examples include signalization and turning lanes.

UCTC Ulster County Transportation Council - The MPO for the Kingston metropolitan area which covers Ulster County.

USDOT - United States Department of Transportation. The federal cabinet department that includes the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration.

Urbanized area - Generally an incorporated place and adjacent densely populated area with combined minimum population of 50,000.

VMT - vehicle miles traveled. Measure of vehicle travel; one vehicle traveling one mile.